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artist who is not only a technician, but also a painter, a musician and a poet. The *magnum opus* of the collection is the set of sixty plates which represent the Gems and Jewels of the Louvre, the greatest treasures of the French nation. He spent four years at the work and made of each plate a masterpiece. Here are a number of national heirlooms of great historic interest, like the swords of Chilperic, Charlemagne and Francis I, jewels of the eleventh century, antique porphyry vases mounted in the Middle Ages, crystal vases which belonged to Valois kings, the gifts of the city of Florence to Marie de Medicis, sconces of cameos, agates and pearls, the clasp of the mantle of St. Louis, the cup of Mithridates, and a score of rock crystal chalices scintillating with light. The rendering of texture is everywhere done with complete realism and with an exquisite pictorial effect.

Nothing, however, is more subtle than his illustrations for his father's works, "L'Histoire de la Porcelaine" and "L'Histoire de la Céramique," or more picturesque than his reproductions of two score famous paintings, notably the sets of twelve he made fifty years ago for the Metropolitan Museum of Art. His etched flower compositions are the essence of grace, and his set of American Medals an imperishable monument to his spirit of truth. Five years before he died — from consumption, in 1880 — he took up water colors, and with that medium built up a great reputation and a fortune. As a rule his views of the Riviera have the freshness of the dew-laden flower; they are, however, to be found almost exclusively in European museums. In



Console Table (drawing) J. Jacquemart

America we shall, unfortunately, know only the etchings, but, as Mr. Hamerton wrote, "here he remained master of his subject, master of his means, a prince in a fairy principedom of his own, full of enchanted treasures, full of gold and opal and pearls, of porphyry and sardonyx and agate, of jasper and lapis lazuli, all in the deepest and truest sense his own: for what rich man ever so truly possessed these things?"

L. R. METCALFE.



Church of Santa Maria de Mur

A Catalan Fresco

THE Museum has recently acquired a Byzantine fresco which originally decorated the apse of the small Romanesque church of Santa Maria de Mur in Catalonia. Many of these village churches in the foothills of the Spanish Pyrenees have fallen on evil times and threaten to become ruins. To preserve the mural paintings several have been removed to the Museum of Barcelona. The Boston Museum now possesses the only one which has left the country.

The whole fresco covers a surface of about twenty-two by twenty-four feet. The shell of the apse was occupied by a painting of Christ in an "ovale aigu," in the act of blessing, surrounded by the symbols of the four Evangelists. Below this ran a zone of the Twelve Apostles, life size, separated into groups by three windows. Two of these windows had their jambs painted with the story of Cain and Abel. Again, below this there followed various scenes from the New Testament.

The fresco is not yet in a condition to be exhibited, but it is the intention of the Trustees to install it in a fitting manner in the Museum galleries, and plans are being prepared.

AN EXHIBITION OF MINIATURES, arranged by the American Society of Miniature Painters, will be held in the Evans Galleries from November 19 to December 10. The exhibition is expected to include between fifty and sixty miniatures by American artists.